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NEW ATLANTIS.
STAN LEE PRESENTS: SUB-MARINER AND IRON MAN -- TOGETHER!
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THE ARCHITECTS OF THIS NEOTERIC CITY HAVE NOBLY ATTEMPTED TO CAPTURE THE LOOK AND SPIRIT OF THEIR LONG-LOST KINGDOM.
HORNS ECHO THROUGH THE ABYSSAL PLAINS, ANNOUNCING THE RETURN OF ATLANTIS'S LOST SON.
FOR WHAT IS A KINGDOM WITHOUT A KING TO RULE HER...?

MARVEL TEAM-UP® Vol. 1, No. 11, July, 1998. Published by MARVEL COMICS. Joseph Calamari, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Shirrel Rhoades, Executive VP, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **Application to mail Periodicals Postage Rates is pending at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1998 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.99 per copy in the U.S. and $2.80 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $23.88; foreign $35.88; and Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. MARVEL TEAM-UP (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO MARVEL TEAM-UP c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING CORP./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (203) 743-5331. FAX # (203) 744-9944. Printed in the U.S.A.**

WHERE IS HE?
DID HE DESERT US AGAIN?
PERHAPS HE NEVER RETURNED TO US AT ALL!
I SAW HIM!
YOU SAW A PINK-SKIN IN A SURFACE-DWELLER'S BREATHING SUIT!
A TRUE ATLANTEAN MONARCH NEEDS NO ASSISTANCE TO BREATHE IN HIS DOMAIN!
I DON'T LIKE THIS, VASHTI.
THE PEOPLE ARE GROWING RESTLESS... AND I, FOR ONE, DON'T BLAME THEM!
AYE, NAMORITA. HAVE WE COME SO FAR--
--ONLY TO ONCE MORE LOSE THE GUIDING LIGHT OF PRINCE NAMOR, THE ONE TRUE SUB-MARINER?
DEEP IN THE WATERS OF SOUTHERN OCEAN, A LONE FIGURE DESCENDS THE BALLENY SEAMOUNTS.
AT 3,000 FEET, HE HAS PLUNGED DEEPER THAN ANY OTHER DEEP-SEA DIVER IN SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING GEAR.
BUT FOR THE MIGHTY SUB-MARINER, IT ISN'T DEEP ENOUGH...
NEPTUNE'S BLOOD! ALREADY MY BODY BEGINS TO SUCCUMB TO THE PRESSURE!
THE CONDITION THAT ROBBED ME OF THE ABILITY TO BREATHE WATER IS TAKING A TURN FOR THE WORSE!

IS THIS TRULY THE END OF THE SUB-MARINER?!
DR. STRANGE INDICATED THAT MY CONDITION WAS MOST LIKELY PSYCHOSOMATIC.
SO IS IT ME WHO SUBMITS TO THE OCEAN DEPTHS--
--OR THIS INFERNAL SUIT I AM FORCED TO WEAR?
WHAT OCCURRED WHEN I RE-EMERGED INTO THIS PLANE OF EXISTENCE FROM AN ALTERNATE REALITY?
NO STRANGER AM I TO MEMORY LOSS, BUT THIS TIME MY MIND WAS SOMEHOW REINTEGRATED PIECEMEAL.
"SUBJECT TO FITS OF BERSERKER RAGE, I JOINED THE WRECKING CREW ON THEIR DESTRUCTIVE SPREE IN DOWNTOWN NEW YORK.
"SHORTLY THEREAFTER, I DISCOVERED ANOTHER CURIOUS SIDE-EFFECT OF MY POST-RENAISSANCE...
"... I COULD NO LONGER BREATHE IN MY OWN AQUATIC ELEMENT!
"CAPTAIN AMERICA FITTED ME WITH THIS RIDICULOUS GARB TO OVERTHROW THE TRAITOROUS KEERG--
"-- WHO HAD ALLIED HIMSELF WITH A SURFACE CAPITALIST NAMED TILTON TO OVERTHROW THE ECONOMY OF NEW ATLANTIS."
SADLY, IT WAS MY OWN DEALINGS IN SURFACE BUSINESS VENTURES THAT HAD INSPIRED KEERG IN THE FIRST PLACE!

"ATTEMPTING TO DISTANCE MYSELF FROM THAT SHAME, I FOCUSED MY WRATH ON THE SURFACE WORLD--
"--AND BROUGHT IT TO BEAR AGAINST THE OTHER HALF OF THE POLLUTING PARTNERSHIP." *
* I COULDN'T HAVE RECAPPED THE PAST FEW ISSUES BETTER MYSELF! -- G.G.
I'VE DONE EVERYTHING I CAN TO RECLAIM MY BIRTHRIGHT AS THE DEFENDER OF ATLANTIS.
WHY AM I NOT HEALED?!
THE DESPONDENT WORDS ECHO OFF THE CORAL CANYONS--
--AND THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE'S CONCRETE CANYONS REPLY WITH THE FAINT SOUND OF MICRO TURBINES.
THERE ARE THOSE WHO BELIEVE THAT THE AGE OF CHIVALRY DIED WITH KING ARTHUR AND HIS INTREPID KNIGHTS.
BUT THE IDEALS OF THOSE LONG-LOST CHAMPIONS CONTINUE TO THRIVE IN THE MODERN KNIGHT KNOWN AS--
THE INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN
ACCESS CODE: STARK TOWERS BETA ZERO-TWO-ZERO.
BE IT EVER SO HUMBLE...

...THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE THE OFFICE.
GREETINGS, MR. STARK.
YOU HAVE 18 NEW MESSAGES.
RETRIEVE.
PAYING TOO MUCH INTEREST ON YOUR CREDIT CARDS? CALL
DELETE.
TONY? STEVE. COULD YOU CUT DUNPHY'S CHECK SOONER THAN THE OTHERS?
NOTE AND DELETE.
HEF HERE. KIMBERLY'S SISTER IS STAYING WITH US THIS WEEKEND, AND WE THOUGHT YOU
SAVE.
STARK! IT'S ROLAND TILTON!
I'M IN A BIT OF A JAM HERE, BUDDY. THE SUB-MARINER PUT ME OUT OF BUSINESS!
I KNOW STARK SOLUTIONS ISN'T AFRAID OF GOING UP AGAINST THESE SUPER-HEAVIES.
YOU'VE GOT TO BAIL MY BACKSIDE OUT OF THIS ONE, PAL!
RETURN CALL

H-HELLO?
TILTON. IT'S TONY STARK.
STARK! W-WHY ISN'T YOUR BROADCAST MONITOR ON?
UMM-- I JUST GOT OUT OF THE SHOWER.
YEAH, RIGHT!
LISTEN, STARK--I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOUR BOYISH PLAYBOY ANTICS.
DITCH THE BROAD AND LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!
THAT'S WHY I'M CALLING, ROLAND.
STARK SOLUTIONS IS SET UP TO HELP GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.
IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH ATLANTIS, YOU SHOULD TAKE IT UP WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT.
THE STATE DEPARTMENT WON'T HELP ME WITH...
NO! NO! GET AWAY!
NOOO!!
TILTON?
CONNECTION TERMINATED

YOU WEREN'T ABOUT TO GIVE OUR NAMES AWAY, WERE YOU, ROLAND?
NO! NO, I SWEAR!
I--I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR NAMES!
I MEAN-- I ALWAYS GET THE FOUR OF YOU CON-FUSED!
IZZAT SO? WELL, LET'S REFRESH YOUR MEMORY...
I'M THE WRECKER-- AS IN WRECK YER LIFE AND YER CAREER!
"THAT'S PILEDRIVER.
"LANDS ON YER HEAD WITH HIS BIG FEET AN' ANT-MAN'LL BE LAUGHIN' ATCHA.
"BULLDOZER LIKES TA MAKE OATMEAL OUTTA PEOPLE'S BRAINS--
"--AN' THUNDER-BALL'S THE SILENT INTELLECTUAL.
"HE LETS HIS BALL DO ALL HIS TALKIN'!"
WE'RE THE WRECKIN' CREW, CHUM!
AND WE TOLDJA THAT WE'D HANDLE THE SUB-MAREENER AN' HIS CLAM-BROTH CLAN!

P-P-PLEASE! I'M JUST AN HONEST BUSINESSMAN!
I DON'T WANT TO GET MIXED UP IN ALL OF THIS SUPER-VILLAIN STUFF!
HONEST? HARDLY!
SLAP!
LIKE IT OR NOT, ROLLIE, YER ALREADY MIXED UP!
I WENT THROUGH A LOTTA TROUBLE FOR YOU, BUSTIN' MY FRIENDS OUTTA THE JOINT AN' ALL!
NOW YER GONNA SEE THIS THING THROUGH TO THE END!
DIRK, WHY DO YOU EVEN CARE ABOUT HELPING TILTON GET EVEN WITH NAMOR?
WHY?
'CUZ HE MADE US LOOK LIKE CHUMPS, THAT'S WHY!
'CUZ THE WORLD SHOULD WITNESS THE WRECKIN' CREW LAYIN' WASTE TO A WHOLE BLAMED COUNTRY!
AN' 'CUZ THERE'S GOT TA BE SOME REALLY RICH TREASURE DOWN IN ATLANTIS!
NO PICK-UP ON STAR 6-9.
BLAST!
WHEN TILTON FIRST OPENED THAT FACTORY, I THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP BRING JOBS TO THE LOWER EAST SIDE.
BUT WHEN NAMOR DESTROYED THE FACTORY LAST WEEK, I LOOKED INTO TILTON'S BUSINESS PRACTICES.
HE'S DEFINITELY NOT SQUEAKY CLEAN. BUT HOW FAR WILL NAMOR TAKE HIS VENDETTA?
WAS THE PERSON WHO PULLED TILTON OFF-CAMERA THE SUB-MARINER HIMSELF?

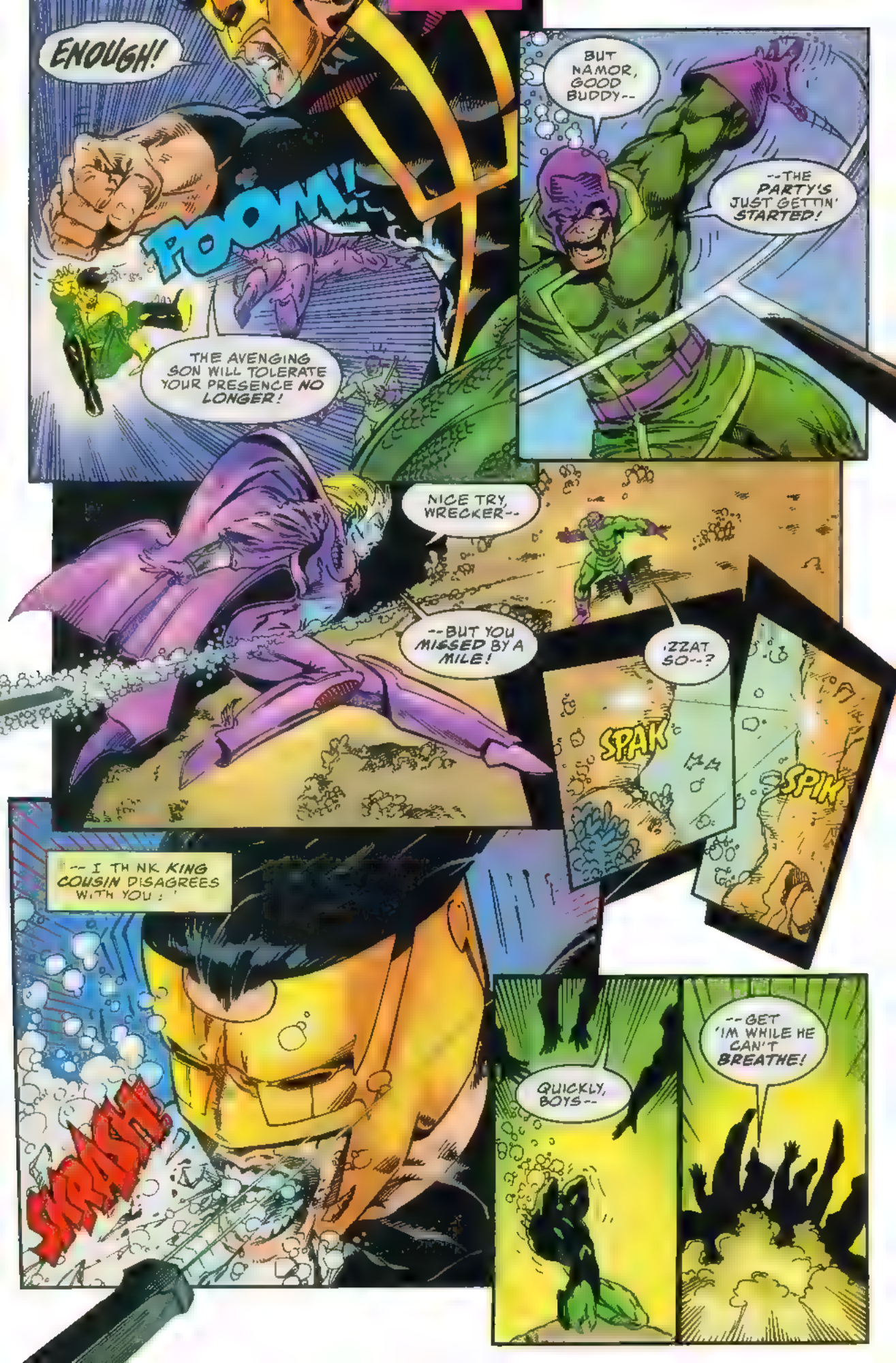
THE CORONATION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN, AND STILL NO SIGN OF YOUR COUSIN, YOUNG ONE.
HE'LL BE HERE, VASHTI...
I KNOW HE WILL!
THAT'S COMFORTING...
...BECAUSE DESPITE THE INTEGRATION OF THE MOD VI DEEP SUB-MERGENCE ARMOR IN THE CURRENT MODEL--
--I'VE STILL GOT A LIMITED OXYGEN SUPPLY.
SO NAMOR HAD BETTER NOT KEEP ME WAITING!

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, IRON MAN?
IN MOST COUNTRIES, BARGING INTO A SOVEREIGN THRONE ROOM IS CONSIDERED AN ACT OF WAR!
ATLANTIS IS NO DIFFERENT!
GUARDS!!
LADY NAMORITA, PLEASE-- THE IRON ONE IS CONSIDERED A GREAT HERO ON THE SURFACE WORLD!
IN THE NAME OF DIPLOMACY, SHOULD WE NOT--?
GLY'S NOTHING MORE THAN A HIGH-TECH SARDINE CAN. FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, HE CAN--
NAMORITA-- I'M SORRY I DIDN'T MEAN TO COME ON SO STRONG.
BUT IT'S IMPORTANT THAT I SEE NAMOR, BE-FORE--
BA-THROOOM!
TAKE COVER! IT'S A SEA-QUAKE!

THAT WAS NO SEAQUAKE IT CAME FROM OUTSIDE!
VASHT, TEND TO THE WOUNDED-- GET THEM TO SAFETY!
NAMORITA AND I WILL FIND OUT WHAT'S CAUSING ALL THE COMMOTION...
THEN LOOK NO FURTHER THAN YER TIN-PLATED NOSE, AVENGER--
--'CUZ THE WRECKING CREW'S HERE TA PARTY!
KRASH!
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE'S GIVING NAMOR A TASTE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT SMILING UNDER THAT HELMET IRON MAN.

THESE GUYS ARE NO LAUGHING MATTER!
;glk!;
--I'M HAVIN' MYSELF A REGULAR RIOT!
DEPENDS ON YOUR POINT OF VIEW, FISH-GIRL--
IF IT IS A RIOT YOU SEEK, SURFACE-DWELLER--
THWAM!
;gasp!;
--IT IS A RIOT YOU SHALL HAVE!
WHO THE HECK IS THAT?!
PRINCE NAMOR!
HE HAS RETURNED!
ALL HAIL THE KING!
NO! PEOPLE OF ATLANTIS, DO NOT REVEAL THE IDENTITY OF--
TOO LATE
IMPERIUS REX!!

TH-THAT'S THE SUB-MAREENER?!
HAW HAW HA HAH HAW HAW!
HA-HA-HA!
WE'D HEARD YOU MIGHTA LOST YER ABILITY TA BREATHE WATER!
ME AN' THE BOYS HAVE A DOSE OF ASGARDIAN MAGIC TA KEEP US UNDER-WATER FER A FEW HOURS--BUT THAT OUTFIT IS TOO MUCH!
I'LL TAKE ALL THREE OF 'EM OUT, BOSS!
NOT IF I PROPERLY ADJUST THE FREQUENCY OF MY REPUL-SORS--
--TO CREATE A RIP-TIDE THAT CAN TEAR APART THE HULL OF A SUBMARINE, BY STRESSING IT IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS AT ONCE!
UNGH!
PERSONALLY? I MANAGE MY STRESS IN ONE DIRECTION--
--DOWN!
THOOM!

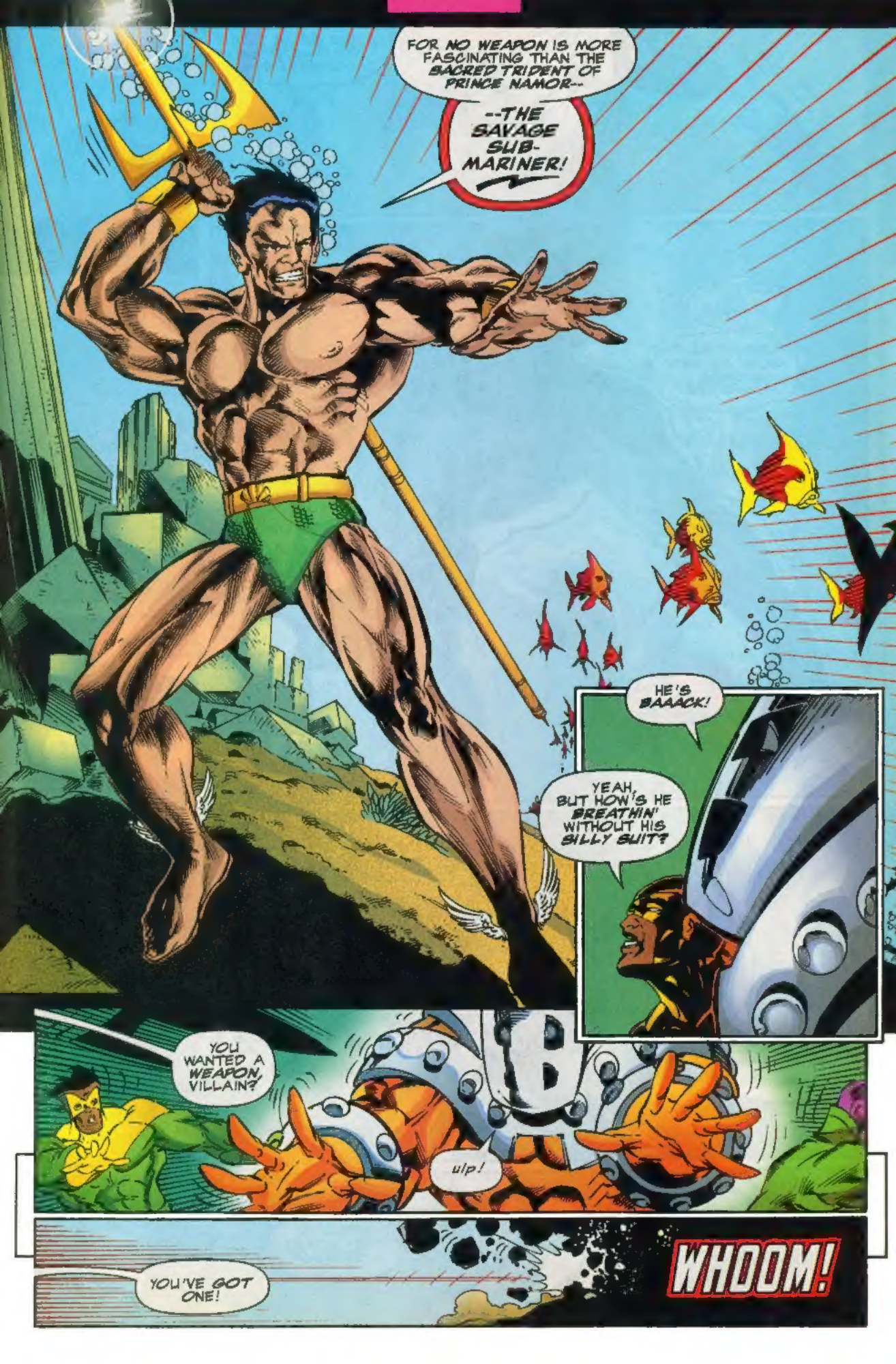

ENOUGH!
KOOM!
THE AVENGING SON WILL TOLERATE YOUR PRESENCE NO LONGER!
BUT NAMOR, GOOD BUDDY--
--THE PARTY'S JUST GETTIN' STARTED!
NICE TRY, WRECKER--
--BUT YOU MISSED BY A MILE!
'ZZAT SO--?
SPAK
SPIK
-- I TH NK KING COUSIN DISAGREES WITH YOU :
SKRASH!
QUICKLY, BOYS--
-- GET 'IM WHILE HE CAN'T BREATHE!

UH-OH! THE GROUND'S SHAKIN'!
THAT'S NOT A GOOD SIGN...
YOU KNOW SOMETHING?
YOU FOUR GIVE NEW MEANING TO THE TERM "DIRTY POOL."
NAMOR, TAKE MY EMERGENCY REGULATOR--
--AND SHARE MY OXYGEN SUPPLY
I'LL RETURN YOU TO THE SURFACE WHERE YOU CAN...
NO! TAKE ME THERE--
--THE HALL OF MEDICINE!
GREAT NEPTUNE! PRINCE NAMOR HAS SUSTAINED INJURY!
CLEAR THE EMERGENCY ROOM!

NO! TEND THE WOUNDED!
NAMOR--!
VASHTI--THE OX CAPSULES THAT RE-CIRCULATE THE OXYGEN IN OUR PEOPLE'S BLOOD WHEN THEY WISH TO WALK TOPSIDE--
--BRING ME A SUPPLY NOW!
BUT, M'LORD-- YOU YOURSELF BANNED THE DRUG FROM THE REALM ..
WHEN YOU LEARNED IT WAS ADDIC-TIVE!
NEPTUNE'S BLOOD, OLD MAN--THIS IS A HOSPITAL!
FIND ME SOME OF THAT DRUG!
Y-YES, M'LORD!

BOOM!
THE LIGHTS..
THE WRECKING CREW HAS FOLLOWED US!
EMERGENCY GENERATORS HAVE KICKED IN.
THAT WILL NOT SAVE MY PEOPLE.
MY FRIEND--TO DEFEND THIS HOSPITAL YOU MUST CONFRONT THE WRECKER AND HIS FIENDS ALONE
TH-THAT WOULD MEAN LEAVING YOU WITHOUT OXYGEN!
MY NEEDS ARE IRRELEVANT WHEN MY SUBJECTS ARE IN DANGER
GO
CAN'T BELIEVE I JUST DID THAT--BUT NAMOR'S RIGHT.
MAYBE I CAN POLISH OFF THE WRECKING CREW QUICKLY WITH THE HELP OF...
NO!
NAMORITA'S OUT COLD!
WHICH MEANS I'M ON MY OWN.

BACK FOR ROUND TWO, AVENGER?
DON'TCHA KNOW THAT IRON RUSTS UNDER WATER?
AND DON'T YOU KNOW THAT THIS RUST BUCKET EMPLOYS REPULSORS--
--WHICH CAN REPEL ALMOST...
..ANYTHING?
KLANK!
FIZZLE!
POP!
HA! ANYTHING 'CEPT AN ENCHANTED CROWBAR!
KNOW SOMETHIN', SHELL-HEAD..?
I ALWAYS WANTED TA GET ME A WEAPON TA THROW!
NO--!
CATCH!
OOPH!
KRAK!
IF IT IS WEAPONS THAT FASCINATE YOU, THEN FACE ME, IMPUDENT ONES!


FOR NO WEAPON IS MORE FASCINATING THAN THE SACRED TRIDENT OF PRINCE NAMOR--
--THE SAVAGE SUB-MARINER!
HE'S BAAACK!
YEAH, BUT HOW'S HE BREATHIN' WITHOUT HIS SILLY SUIT?
YOU WANTED A WEAPON, VILLAIN?
ulp!
YOU'VE GOT ONE!
WHOOM!

SOME OF US DON'T NEED WEAPONS, GREEN-BRIEFS.
YEAARRGH!
OH, PLEASE!
DON'T YOU KNOW ANY NEW GAMES, PILEDRIVER?
I LIKE KINKY GAMES MYSELF.
THIS ONE IS CALLED BONDAGE AND DOMINATION...
eh?
MY THANKS, LITTLE COUSIN.
:; mmmph! ;:
WHEN DID YOU START TALKING TO THE FISH?
WHEN DID THEY START LISTENING?

AND THEN THERE WAS ONE.
C-CAN'T WE ALL JUST--GET ALONG?
NO!!
POW!
3
GOOD RIDDANCE.
SO, CUZ, HOW'D YOU MANAGE TO DITCH THE SUIT?
I CHEATED.
I SWALLOWED AN OX CAPSULE, AND I MUST SOON RETURN TO THE SURFACE, BEFORE IT WEARS OFF.
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY!
I COULDN'T FIND A SUPPLY OF OX--
Y-YOU'RE SAYING--MY CONDITION WAS PSYCHOSOMATIC ALL ALONG?
--SO I GAVE YOU ONE OF MY VITAMIN PILLS INSTEAD.
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE COULDN'T HANDLE THE POSSIBILITY OF REJECTING HIS SURFACE HERITAGE.

AND SO...
AS HEIR TO THE ROYAL BLOOD, AND FOR YOUR MERITORIOUS SERVICE IN OUR TIME OF NEED...
...I INVOKE THE POWER OF NEPTUNE AND BESTOW UPON YOU THE ROYAL CROWN!
CITIZENS OF NEW ATLANTIS! TODAY WE STAND UPON THE CREST OF A NEW WAVE.
IT IS AN ETERNALLY ASCENDING WAVE FOR OUR PEOPLE--ONE THAT I WILL NEVER PERMIT TO CRASH.
ATLANTIS HAS ITS FAIR SHARE OF ENEMIES, BOTH ABOVE AND BELOW.
BUT SHE HAS FRIENDS IN BOTH WORLDS AS WELL.
TODAY, NEW ATLANTIS VANQUISHED A POWERFUL FOE WITH THE AID OF THE SURFACE WORLD'S GOLDEN AVENGER.
ATLANTIS THANKS YOU, IRON MAN--AS DO I.
LET'S JUST SAY IT WAS ALL IN THE SPIRIT OF INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY BETWEEN OUR...
IT IS WITH SADNESS THAT I MUST ASK YOU TO LEAVE...
SAY AGAIN?
...NEVER TO RETURN.
THE SURFACE WORLD HAS BROUGHT ABOUT THE DESTRUCTION OF ATLANTIS TIME AND TIME AGAIN.
TODAY, IT WAS OUR PEOPLE, FOLLOWING MY OWN COMMERCIAL DEALINGS WITH THE TOP-SIDERS, WHO BROUGHT ABOUT THIS CALAMITY.
BECAUSE OF THAT, ATLANTIS MUST FOREVER CLOSE ITS GOLDEN GATES ON THE SURFACE POWER-BROKERS--
--AND BANISH THE HELOTS THAT WORK FOR THEM.
THE END
(AND A NEW BEGINNING!)